

REMEDICATION AND REDEVELOPMENT (RR) NEWS FROM WISCONSIN DNR
March 16, 2001

NRB APPROVES VPLE INSURANCE RULE

On February 28 DNR's Natural Resources Board (NRB) approved emergency rule chapter NR 754, which become effective on March 6, 2001. This rule defines insurance requirements for certain parties conducting approved cleanups of contaminated properties and seeking the Voluntary Party Liability Exemption (VPLE). These insurance requirements apply when natural attenuation is used to ultimately bring groundwater contamination below state standards. After the voluntary party demonstrates that natural attenuation will successfully clean up groundwater contamination, the party pays a fee for insurance coverage, submits an application form and the Department issues a Certificate of Completion. The insurance covers additional expenses if the cleanup does not work as intended, protecting taxpayers from potential additional costs. The insurance program, the first of its kind in the nation, was developed by DNR's RR Program and the Department of Administration's Bureau of State Risk Management, as was initially recommended by the 1998 Brownfields Study Group. A copy of the rule language (see Order RR-13-01(E)) can be obtained on the RR Program web site at http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/rr/wi_regs/index.htm. A new fact sheet which describes the rule requirements and a schedule of fees is also available on the web site. If you have questions on the rule and the insurance fees, contact Michael Prager at pragem@dnr.state.wi.us

NATIONAL BROWNFIELDS ASSOCIATION DEAL FLOW CONFERENCE

On April 17-18, the National Brownfields Association will host its 2001 Deal Flow Conference in Chicago. This event will bring together owners, developers, municipalities, investors, and end users that are involved in the cleanup and redevelopment of brownfields properties. The goal of the conference is to stimulate brownfield transactions and to educate stakeholders on the brownfield redevelopment process, bringing stakeholders together to make redevelopment more efficient and successful. Wisconsin businesses and local governments can showcase properties for sale, exhibit their services, or just attend to learn. Invited keynote speakers include Christine Todd Whitman, Administrator of the US EPA, and Richard M. Daley, Mayor of Chicago. Speakers will represent state environmental agencies, local governments and successful brownfields real estate developers. The conference will be held at the Sheraton Hotel & Towers in downtown Chicago, Illinois. More information on the conference can be obtained from their web site: <http://www.bfdealflow.com/> or by calling (773) 714-0407.

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